

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/972,195 Confirmation No. : 3113  
First Named Inventor : Martin BRODT  
Filed : October 9, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 3726  
Examiner : Trinh T. Nguyen  
Docket No. : 095309.50476  
Customer No. : 23911  
Title : Method and Apparatus for The Production of Locally  
Reinforced Sheet-Metal Mouldings and Products Made  
Thereby

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 AND 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

This supplements the Information Disclosure Statement submitted in the above-identified application on October 9, 2001.

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

**CONCISE EXPLANATION OF NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE DOCUMENTS**

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding foreign Search Report citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

We note that German Publication Nos. DE 43 07 563 and DE 195 29 881 were cited in the previous IDS filing of October 9, 2001. Therefore, a copy of these cited references is not provided with this supplemental filing.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account 05-1323, Docket No.: 095309.50476.

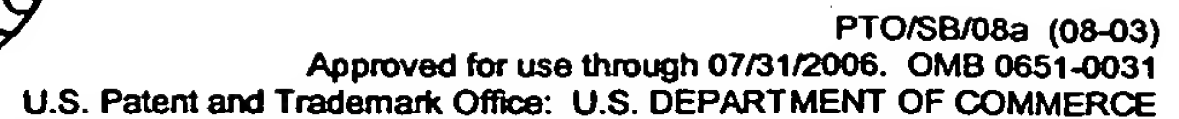
Respectfully submitted,

December 21, 2004



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**(use as many sheets as necessary)**

|                               |                        |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Application Number</b>     | <b>09/972,195</b>      |
| <b>Filing Date</b>            | <b>October 9, 2001</b> |
| <b>First Named Inventor</b>   | <b>Martin BRODT</b>    |
| <b>Art Unit</b>               | <b>3726</b>            |
| <b>Examiner Name</b>          | <b>Trinh T. Nguyen</b> |
| <b>Attorney Docket Number</b> | <b>095309.50476US</b>  |

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| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 |
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| Examiner<br>Initials <sup>1</sup> | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
|                                   |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> —Number <sup>4</sup> —Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |                |
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|                                   |                          |   |                                |  |   |                |
|                                   |                          |   |                                |  |   |                |
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| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

**This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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Office européen  
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Département à  
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recherche

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Intellectual Property Management  
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70546 Stuttgart  
ALLEMAGNE

|               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| IPM/C         |                   |
| Eing.         | BBH 02. Nov. 2004 |
| z. Erledigung |                   |
| Erst          |                   |
| z. P.         |                   |
| Ablage        |                   |

- Prüfgebühr bezahlen?  
- Benennungen?

Datum/Date  
03.11.04

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Zeichen/Ref./Réf.<br>P033580/EP/1 + DE  | Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°/Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°.<br>01123618.9-2302- |
| Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire<br>DaimlerChrysler AG |   |

## MITTEILUNG

Das Europäische Patentamt übermittelt beiliegend den europäischen Recherchenbericht zu der obengenannten europäischen Patentanmeldung.

Wenn zutreffend, Kopien der im Recherchenbericht aufgeführten Schriften sind beigelegt.

☐ Zusätzliche Kopie(n) der im europäischen Recherchenbericht angeführten Schriftstücke sind beigelegt.

Die folgenden Angaben des Anmelders wurden von der Recherchenabteilung genehmigt:

☒ Zusammenfassung ☒ Bezeichnung

☐ Die Zusammenfassung wurde von der Recherchenabteilung abgeändert und der endgültige Wortlaut ist dieser Mitteilung beigelegt.

Die folgende Abbildung wird mit der Zusammenfassung veröffentlicht: 1B

## RÜCKERSTATTUNG DER RECHERCHEGEBÜHR

Falls Artikel 10 der Gebührenordnung in Anwendung kommt, ergeht noch eine gesonderte Mitteilung der Eingangsstelle hinsichtlich der Rückerstattung der Recherchegebühr.





| EINSCHLÄGIGE DOKUMENTE  |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| Kategorie   | Kennzeichnung des Dokuments mit Angabe, soweit erforderlich, der maßgeblichen Teile  | Betrifft<br>Anspruch                            | KLASSIFIKATION DER<br>ANMELDUNG (Int.Cl.7) |
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|   |  |   | B21D<br>B62D                               |
| Der vorliegende Recherchenbericht wurde für alle Patentansprüche erstellt   |  |   |  |
| Recherchenort<br>Den Haag   |  | Abschlußdatum der Recherche<br>22. Oktober 2004 | Prüfer<br>Gerard, O                        |
| <div>KATEGORIE DER GENANNTEN DOKUMENTE</div> <div>X : von besonderer Bedeutung allein betrachtet<br/>Y : von besonderer Bedeutung in Verbindung mit einer anderen Veröffentlichung derselben Kategorie<br/>A : technologischer Hintergrund<br/>O : mündliche Offenbarung<br/>P : Zwischenliteratur</div> <div>T : der Erfindung zugrunde liegende Theorien oder Grundsätze<br/>E : älteres Patentdokument, das jedoch erst am oder nach dem Anmeldedatum veröffentlicht worden ist<br/>D : in der Anmeldung angeführtes Dokument<br/>L : aus anderen Gründen angeführtes Dokument<br/>&amp; : Mitglied der gleichen Patentfamilie, übereinstimmendes Dokument</div> |  |   |  |

# ANHANG ZUM EUROPÄISCHEN RECHERCHENBERICHT ÜBER DIE EUROPÄISCHE PATENTANMELDUNG NR.

EP 01 12 3618

In diesem Anhang sind die Mitglieder der Patentfamilien der im obengenannten europäischen Recherchenbericht angeführten Patentdokumente angegeben.

Die Angaben über die Familienmitglieder entsprechen dem Stand der Daten des Europäischen Patentamts am 22-10-2004.  
Diese Angaben dienen nur zur Unterrichtung und erfolgen ohne Gewähr.

22-10-2004

| Im Recherchenbericht<br>angeführtes Patentdokument |   | Datum der<br>Veröffentlichung | Mitglied(er) der<br>Patentfamilie |               | Datum der<br>Veröffentlichung |
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EPO FORM P0481

EUROPÄISCHES  
PATENTAMT  
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Pays-Bas / Netherlands / Nederlande  
☎ Telex 31651  
(070) 340-20 40  
✉ BREVPATENT



Datum/Date

Zeichen/Ref./Rél.

Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°/Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°.

Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire

## COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits

- ☐ the European search report
- ☐ the declaration under Rule 45 of the European Patent Convention
- ☐ the partial European search report under Rule 45 of the European Patent Convention
- ☐ the supplementary European search report concerning the international application number

relating to the above-identified European patent application; copies of the documents cited in the search report are enclosed.

The Search Division approved the following items, as submitted by the applicant:

- ☐ Abstract ☐ Title ☐ Figure
- ☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to the present communication.
- ☐ The following figure will be published with the abstract, since the Search Division considers that it better characterises the invention than the one indicated by the applicant.

Figure:

- ☐ Additional copy(ies) of the documents cited in the European search report.

## REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Art.10 of the Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent to you later.





European Patent  
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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT   |   |                                  |   |
|---|---|----------------------------------|---|
| Category  | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages | Relevant to claim                | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. CL.4) |
|   |   |                                  |   |
|   |   |                                  | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. CL.4)         |
|   |   |                                  |   |
| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims  |   |                                  |   |
| Place of search   |   | Date of completion of the search | Examiner                                      |
| <div>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</div> <div><div>X : particularly relevant if taken alone<br/>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category<br/>A : technological background<br/>O : non-written disclosure<br/>P : intermediate document</div><div>T : theory or principle underlying the invention<br/>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date<br/>D : document cited in the application<br/>L : document cited for other reasons<br/>&amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</div></div> |   |                                  |   |



# ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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| Patent document<br>cited in search report | Publication<br>date | Patent family<br>member(s) | Publication<br>date |
|---|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
|   |                     |                            |                     |